



— State of —
North Dakota
Office of the Governor
John Hoeven
Governor

PROCLAMATION
GERMAN AMERICA DAY
OCTOBER 6, 2003

WHEREAS, October 6 marks the 320th anniversary of the arrival of the first group of German families to settle in America and to establish a lasting community, and since 1683 millions of German-speaking peoples have come to North America in search of greater freedom and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, today nearly one-fourth of the citizens of the United States can trace at least part of their ancestry to these peoples; and the many, diverse German immigrants and their descendants, have served the United States of America in all forms of endeavor and have made significant contributions to all facets of life in this nation; and

WHEREAS, many citizens of German-speaking origins have made their home in North Dakota and have added substantially to the character and development of our state, and the new international office of the Germans from Russia Heritage Society is located in Bismarck, the state's capital; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States and the Governor of North Dakota have proclaimed October 6 as the annual day for the nation and state to recognize and appreciate its German heritage; and

NOW THEREFORE, as the Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim October 6, 2003, **"GERMAN AMERICA DAY"** in the State of North Dakota.

/s/
John Hoeven
Governor

Attest:

/s/
Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State